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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Reverend Ronald J. Nuzzi, Director, ACE Leadership Program, University of Notre Dame, offered the following prayer:

In every age, O Lord, You have been our refuge. So we seek Your wisdom that justice may flow from our deeds. Bless the work of our hands this day.

By the power of Your outstretched arm, open our eyes to see the needs of all who suffer, our ears to hear the cry of the poor, our hearts to feel the anguish of those who do not know freedom.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, as they rise up to You from this, the people's House. To these deliberations bring a spirit of wisdom and understanding.

Grant us a vision of the world as Your love would have it, a world where the weak are protected and children do not go hungry; a world where the riches of creation are shared by all; a world where all cultures and races live in harmony and respect; a world where peace is built with justice and justice is guided by love.

Make us prudent in our planning, courageous in taking risks, patient in suffering, unassuming in prosperity.

As You have been in every age, O Lord, be our refuge and our strength now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WARM WELCOME FOR THE REVEREND RONALD J. NUZZI

(Mr. RYAN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank Father Ron Nuzzi for his uplifting prayer this morning and his great work not only in the Catholic Church but in his leadership and developing catholic school teachers through his program at University of Notre Dame. He is a lifelong friend of mine and my family and has been there for me and my family for every special occasion, good and bad, that our family shares. So I would like to take this opportunity to thank him again for his wonderful prayer this morning.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, April 20, 2004, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair to receive the former Members of Congress.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 8 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

RECEPTION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The Speaker of the House presided.

The SPEAKER. To all of you I want to say good morning. On behalf of the House of Representatives, I am happy to welcome to the Chamber very good friends of this institution, former Members of Congress.

You are not only friends of this institution; you are also friends of ours, and

we look forward to this opportunity every year when we have this chance to visit with you and catch up on each other's lives.

Every one of you has spent precious years of your life, some of the best years of your life, working to represent the needs and concerns of the American people right here in this Chamber.

Your commitment to your Nation did not end when you left the halls of Congress. Many of you have committed to serve the Nation in many other honorable ways.

Senator Sam Nunn is one of those people, and he currently is an ideal and worthy choice to receive the Distinguished Service Award.

While deprived of the opportunity to serve in the House, Senator Nunn served the other body with great distinction. Known as an expert on defense issues, Senator Nunn was respected by both sides of the aisle for his sense of fair play, his patriotism, and his commitment to the security of this Nation.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all former Members for their continued efforts both home and abroad. Your outreach in college campuses throughout this country has helped to strengthen the work of our government and to encourage public service. Your support on parliaments around the world is invaluable, and I want to thank you for those efforts as well.

At this time, I would request that the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Jack Buechner, vice president of the Former Members Association, take the chair.

Mr. BUECHNER (presiding). Will the Clerk call the roll of the former Members of Congress.

The Clerk called the roll of the former Members of the Congress, and the following former Members answered to their names:

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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